

Call for papers

The Life and Times of Alfred Edersheim: Sketches of a Jewish Christian (In Celebration of Edersheim's 200th Birthday)

Edited by Anthony P. Royle and Rubén Gómez

In commemoration of his bicentennial anniversary, *The Evangelical Review of Theology and Politics* is set to release a special fascicle delving into the life and contributions of Alfred Edersheim (1825-1889), a noteworthy Jewish Christian scholar. Born in Vienna, Edersheim was born to Jewish parents and later became a Christian under the influence of John Duncan and the Scottish Free Church.

Edersheim's educational pursuits took him to theological studies in Edinburgh and Berlin, leading to his ordination as a minister with the Free Church of Scotland. Notably, he engaged in ministerial efforts among Jewish communities in Romania. Subsequently, Edersheim obtained ordination with the Church of England, holding esteemed positions such as Curate at Abbey Church in Christchurch and Vicar of Loders in Bridport, Dorset. His academic accomplishments include serving as the Warburtonian Lecturer at Lincoln's Inn (1880-1884) and the Grinfield Lecturer at the University of Oxford (1886-1889).

Renowned for his literary contributions, Edersheim authored several impactful books, with his seminal work, "The Life and Times of Jesus the Messiah" (1883), standing out. Initially published in two volumes during the era known as the first "quest" for the historical Jesus, this work remains influential and widely read.

Edersheim's meticulous exploration is foundational to subsequent studies situating Jesus and New Testament scriptures within the socio-historical backdrop of Second Temple Judaism.

The call for papers seeks scholarly submissions that critically examine Edersheim's work within its socio-historical context. Inquiries include an exploration of influences on his theology, his positioning in the realm of Jesus and Judaism scholarship, his understanding of the interplay between Christianity and Judaism, and his approach to interpreting the Bible and other Jewish literary works.

Ideas for papers include (but are not limited to):

- Edersheim's and the NT use of Jewish Scripture.
- Edersheim's view on the gap theory.
- Edersheim as a historian.
- Edersheim's use of Rabbinic literature.
- Edersheim's relationship with John Duncan.
- Edersheim's ministry.
- Edersheim on Jewish life and customs.
- Edersheim and Jewish identity.
- The Edersheim collection at the University of Oxford.
- Edersheim and the land of Israel (topographical and theological issues).

Proposed Timeline:

Submit Abstract by 1st July 2024
Decisions by 30th July 2024
Paper submitted by 3rd March 2025
Fascicle published by 30th June 2025

Contact Anthony for questions and submissions:

anthony.royle@kingsdivinity.org

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